



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tsugio OKAMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2853

Application No.: 10/667,497

Examiner: L. TRAN

Filed: September 23, 2003

Docket No.: 117273

For: BELT CONVEYING MECHANISM FOR INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND
INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS INCLUDING IT

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the June 8, 2007 Office Action, the period for response thereto having been extended by the Petition for Extension of Time and fee submitted herewith, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims at least in light of the following remarks. Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 4-8, 10, 11, 13, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Nakashima et al. (US 7,021,756) ("Nakashima '756"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejection is in order for at least the reason that Nakashima '756 does not qualify as prior art under 35 USC §102. The effective U.S. filing date of Nakashima '756 is March 4, 2004, which is later than the effective U.S. filing date of September 23, 2003 for the present application.